

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 will have been amended to correct informalities in the claim language and to more clearly define the invention, while not substantially affecting or narrowing the scope of these claims and claim 8 has been previously canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Lee and Primary Examiner Lefkowitz for their outstanding courtesy and cooperation exhibited during the interview conducted on March 23, 2004.

The Examiner had rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, asserting that the specification does not reasonably provide enablement for some recitations of claim 1. Applicant respectfully traverses and submits that at least based on the claim amendment, the specification is sufficiently enabling with respect to the subject matter of all of the claims.

During the above-noted interview, Applicants representative presented and discussed the language that had been the subject of the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejection. The Examiner indicated that he had focused on the aspect of the invention that scraps the address to avoid program bugs (see first whole paragraph of page 70) and the aspect that calls additional programs and returns the stored address to the program counter.

Applicant's representative noted that the return-address data is set in the program counter when the revisional program adds a program. Nevertheless, the Examiner felt that the claimed "return-address-setter" should be limited to the additional program aspect

of the invention in the second paragraph of claim 1. He furthermore indicated that this would overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejection.

During further discussions conducted with the Examiner after the above-noted interview, the Examiner and Applicants representative discussed modifying the second from the last paragraph of claim 1 to recite the additional program aspect of the invention. The Examiner appeared to consider the language positively, but noted that he would need to further consider the proposed change. Accordingly, by the present response, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 in the manner subsequently discussed with the Examiner.

The presently amended claim 1 recites that the return-address is set in the program counter by the return-address-setter when the revisional program is completed and when the revisional program adds a program. Applicant submits that this clarifies the claim language and addresses the Examiners' concerns as discussed in the above-noted interview in that the return-address is not set in the program counter by the return-address-setter when there is a bug in the program.

The return-address-setter is shown, for example, in Figure 24 and more specifically by logic box 2402, which is part of the process referred to as the "SEQUENTIAL-INTERRUPTION-RETURN-PROCESSING." As described in the first whole paragraph of page 47, the sequential-interruption-return processing can be executed by, inter alia, the control unit 20 (CU) of the CPU 10. Both the CU 20 and the CPU 10 are described on page 15, line 4 et seq. and shown in figure 1, for example only. Next, as described in the specification on page 47, line 21, at step 2402 the return address stored in RAM 14 is set in the program counter 26.

It thus respectfully asserted that the specification does contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same. Applicant submits that there is specific structure described in the specification and the figures to allow one of ordinary skill to make and use the invention as it relates to the *return-address-setter*, as claimed.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Additionally, minor amendments have been made to claims 1, 2, 6, and 7, in order to make these claims more consistent. In these amendments, Applicant has made several additional changes to the language of the claims to render the same more self consistent, as well as more fully in compliance with U.S. syntax, idiom and grammar. These amendments do not change the scope of the claims but are merely cosmetic changes that give rise to no file wrapper estoppel.

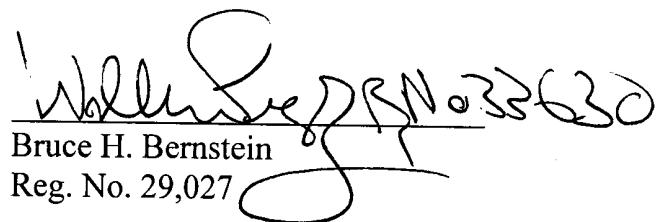
With regard to claims 2-7, Applicant asserts that they are allowable at least because they depend from independent claim 1, which Applicant submits has been shown to be allowable.

In view of the herein contained amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of previously asserted rejection set forth in the Official Action, together with an indication of the allowability of all pending claims, in due course. Such action is respectfully requested and is believed to be appropriate and proper.

Applicant has made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believe that he has now done so. In this regard, Applicant has pointed out specific language of Applicant's specification that provides a written description of the recited claims and respectfully requests an indication to such effect, in due course.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this Reply or the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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